

Can a Muslim receive the reward of fasting a complete year if he fasts the 6 days of Shawwal before making up the missed days of Ramadan?

Summarised from Shaykh Sulaymān ibn Nāsir al-'Alwān (حفظه الله).

What's correct is that a Muslim should make up the days of Ramadān before fasting the 6 days of Shawwāl, because the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said:

{Whoever fasts Ramadān and then FOLLOWS it with six days of Shawwāl}

This Hadīth that was reported by Abū Ayyūb (رضي الله عنه) is clear that a person should make up the missed days of Ramadān before fasting the 6 days of Shawwāl, the Hadīth states "whoever fasts Ramadān", and the person who has days to make up from Ramadān didn't fast Ramadān.

Secondly, what is the ruling on a woman who was in the state of Nifās throughout the month of Ramadān, and she spent all the month of Shawwāl making up the missed days she couldn't fast, now what is the ruling in fasting those 6 days of Shawwāl in Dhīl Qa'dah?

There are two opinions on the issue, the first opinion states that fasting the 6 days of Shawwāl are expired, and it can only be done during the month of Shawwāl.

However the second opinion is much stronger, and that it's permissible to fast the 6 days of Shawwāl in Dhīl Qa'dah if there was a valid excuse, because the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) delayed the 2 rak'ah [which is among the sunan al-Rawātib] after Salāt al-Dhuhr till after Salāt al-'Asr, so likewise a woman who was in the state of Nifās throughout the month of Ramadān has a valid excuse, and Allāh (سبحانه وتعالى) knows best.